

higher, as according to the Department of Justice, over 70 percent of sexual assaults are never reported. Many Native American women remain silent due to cultural barriers, a high level of mistrust for white dominated agencies, and a history of inactivity by state and tribal agencies to prosecute crimes committed against Native Americans.

Furthermore, it is important to address the fact that police and courts tend to ignore cases of violence involving Native American women, due to alleged confusion between Federal and tribal jurisdictions. Cases involving a non-Native American perpetrator and a Native American victim fall under Federal jurisdiction. Tribes do not have criminal jurisdiction over nontribal members even for crimes committed against Native women on the reservation, and regrettably, States are not effective enough in enforcing tribal protection orders. Fortunately, VAWA provides victims with access to critical resources by establishing key grant programs that improve the criminal and civil justice systems' response to victims, as mentioned above. However, even with the best efforts of antiviolence advocates, law enforcement officials and judicial personnel have yet to reach everyone in need of assistance. Despite the successes of VAWA, Native American women are still at greater risk of becoming victims of violence, and the jurisdictional issues they face only further complicate the problem.

On the tenth anniversary of the VAWA, I call on my colleagues to continue supporting this important piece of legislation. Its contributions to society, while unfinished, are essential to combating abuse against women.

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN REGULATIONS REGARDING SENATORIAL SUITE SELECTION

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I rise to announce that in accordance with Title V of the Rules of Procedure of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, the committee has updated the senate regulations on senatorial suite selection effective October 7, 2004.

Based on the committee's review of the 1992 regulations which allow members up to 24 hours to select a Senatorial office suite, the Committee on Rules and Administration has concluded that its regulations should be updated to facilitate the speedy and smooth transition of assigning Senatorial office space. This update includes changing the allowable time for suite selection from 24 hours to eight hours. The Committee on Rules and Administration has also streamlined the process for the submission of office layout plans to the Architect of the Capitol. The timeframe for submitting such layouts to the Architect of the Capitol has been amended from two weeks to one week.

The amended regulations, as adopted appear below:

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION, UNITED STATES SENATE REGULATIONS ON SENATORIAL SUITE SELECTION

Adopted by the Committee on Rules and Administration, September 20, 1988, Amended June 17, 1992, Amended October 7, 2004

The following policy will be in effect for suite selection by Senators following the general elections in November:

1. As in the past, seniority will determine the order of selection of suites.

2. Suite selection will begin promptly after the election.

3. The only opportunity for suite selection by each Senator will occur when he or she is contacted by the Rules Committee.

4. Selection will consist of only those suites available at the time of contact by the Rules Committee.

5. Senators shall inform the Rules Committee of the decision on suite selection within 8 business hours (9 a.m.–6 p.m. Monday through Friday) after contact by the Rules Committee. Failure to respond within 8 business hours will be deemed a decision not to move, unless an extension beyond the 8 business hours is approved by the Chairman of the Rules Committee.

6. Senators shall submit an approved office layout to the Office of the Architect of the Capitol within one week after a suite is assigned. (This action is critical because reconfiguration of partitions, telephones, and computer terminals are dependent upon the office layout.)

7. Senators shall be expected to begin moving into the newly-assigned suite not later than two days after notification that the suite is ready for occupancy.

8. In considering whether to move, Senators should take into consideration the following requirements:

a. Modular furniture will not be moved. If a Senator with an office containing modular furniture selects a suite without modular furniture, traditional furniture will be assigned. In cases where modular furniture is in place, changes in suite configurations should be kept to a minimum.

b. A Senator's computer equipment will move to the new suite. The central processing unit will be initially installed in the location where the previous occupant's CPU was located.

c. If a Senator from a "large" state elects to move, the extra space due that state may not be contiguous. Committees will not be forced to relocate in order to provide contiguous space. The Rules Committee will seek to locate the extra space in a contiguous area, but it may not be possible with most suite choices. It should also be understood that the Rules Committee will not know where the extra space due a "large" state will be located until after all 100 Senators have selected a suite. Then and only then will it be possible for the extra space to be assigned.

9. Senators from California will be assigned the two largest suites in the Hart Building as they become available. The choice between the two suites is to be made by the California Senators. These offices will then be permanently removed from the pool of available suites for assignment.

10. Every effort will be made to expedite moves, including the employment of temporary staff. However, the reconfiguration of partitions, furniture, telephones, and computer terminals requires seven to ten days. It is also desirable to repaint while the suite is vacant.

11. Each Senator (returning and newly-elected) will be informed of this policy immediately after the general election in November.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTION

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, back in June the Senate took a strong step to support intellectual property on the Internet by updating the Government's most important tool in the fight against piracy: its enforcement authority. Unfortunately, the Bush administration, which likes to talk a good game, is apparently not interested in having the tools it needs to do the job. This administration has done nothing, as far as I know, to help enact important intellectual property legislation. As a consequence, congressional Republicans are holding up and resisting important legislation.

The Protecting Intellectual Rights Against Theft and Expropriation Act, S. 2237, allows United States Attorneys' Offices to bring a civil action against a large-scale copyright infringer. For some unimaginable reason, the Justice Department, which cannot issue enough press releases about its newly-minted Intellectual Property Task Force, has taken no interest in or action on this legislation. Apparently, the Ashcroft Justice Department rejects having the law enforcement authority to stop large-scale infringers and protect America's intellectual property from piracy. A Justice Department that has reinterpreted treaties and contorted the law to claim vast and unfettered authorities for this executive has little interest in assembling legislatively enacted tools for copyright protection and to stop piracy.

For a number of reasons having to do with law enforcement priorities, resources and other considerations, prosecutors rarely decide to bring criminal charges even against flagrant infringers. I have encouraged the Department to be more aggressive both internationally and here at home and have praised them when they have acted against infringers. I have worked hard to provide additional resources to our international efforts.